Mrs. Meenakshi N. Menon *(Nominated).*—Whether women can become heads of Departments?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—There is no obstacle.

Applicants for posts.

107. Mr. A. Narayana Menon *(Vyttila).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how many applicants were on the waiting list for entertainment to Sirkar service kept by the various departments of the State at the time final orders were passed on the constitution of the Staff Selection Board (number of people entertained in service at any time and that of people not at all entertained may be given separately);

(b) how many of these had applied for posts before the age of 25 and how long each of them was waiting;

(c) what were the qualifications of the candidates who were not entertained; how many of them were graduates and Honours men?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—

(a), (b) and (c) The particulars furnished by the Member are not definite enough to enable Heads of Departments to collect usefully accurate statistics. Moreover, Government think that time and labour involved in the collection of such statistics are not commensurate with the purpose served.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon *(Vyttila).*—Will it not reduce the enormity of the problem of unemployment?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—The q estion is with regard to the waiting list.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ *(Ezhuvas North).*— ഇതിൽ 'Government think that time and labour involved in the collection of such statistics are not commensurate with the purpose served' എന്നു പറയുന്നുണ്ട്. ഏതാണ്ട് ഇതുപോലെയുള്ള ഒരു ചോദ്യം ഞാനും ചോദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. എജ്ജ്ബാർ എക്സ്പ്ഷൻ അപേക്ഷകരം അധികമുള്ളതു് ഈഴവരിൽനിന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ്. അതിനു കാരണം അവരെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ ആളും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കയില്ല എന്നുള്ളതാണ്. അപ്ലിക്കേഷൻ കൊടുത്തിട്ട് . . . .

Mr. President.—But the Ezhuva Community will never be passed over for want of proper candidates within the age

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limit. If no candidate within the age limit comes in, they will be granted exemption.

Mr T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—In the selection of candidates from the Ezhuva community, we had no occasion till now to recommend any one for exemption, as there were sufficient candidates within the age-limit.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ *(Ezhuvas North).*—ഏജ്ജ്ബാർ ആകാത്തവരുടെ അപേക്ഷകർതന്നെ ആറേഴ കൊല്ലക്കാലമായി ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതിനെപ്പറ്റിയാണ് പറയുന്നത്. ഏജ്ജ്ബാറാകാത്തവരുടെ പുതിയ അപേക്ഷകളെ മാത്രം നോക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ താഴെയുള്ളവരും ഏജ്ജ്ബാറാകുന്നതിനു മുമ്പ് ആറേഴ കൊല്ലമായി അപേക്ഷിച്ചുവരുന്നവരുമായ ആളുകളുടെ കാര്യത്തിൽ എന്തു ചെയ്യുവാൻ പോകുന്നുവെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നത്?

Mr. President.—Government share the sympathy.

Newspapers licensed—statement regarding.

108. **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar** *(Urakam).*—Will the Government be pleased to give in a tabular statement the number and names of newspapers licensed in the State with the license fee fixed and paid by them?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—The statement is appended *(Appendix I.)*

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Are all these papers regularly printed and published in the State or whether any of them stopped publication?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—To our knowledge the 'Keralan' has ceased publication.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Are all the others regularly published?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—I cannot say off hand.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—What is the principle Government follow in fixing the license fee?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—This point has been fully explained during the discussion on the working of the Newspaper Regulation which was raised in the form of a cut motion by the Hon'ble Member himself last time. I would refer the Hon'ble Member to my speech on that occasion. I enumerated the several newspapers, the license fee for each and the principles on which such fees were levied.

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